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19 March 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN
Fortieth session
11-22 March 1996
Agenda item 3

FOLLOW-UP TO THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN

United States of America: draft resolution

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 50/21 of 12 December 1995, Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/52 of 28 July 1995, and Commission on the Status of Women resolution 39/3 of 31 March 1995,

Recalling also the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women, in September 1995, 1/

Stressing that the achievement of a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the Middle East conflict will constitute a significant contribution to strengthening international peace and security,

Recalling the convening of the Peace Conference on the Middle East at Madrid on 30 October 1991, on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) of 22 November 1967 and 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973, and the subsequent bilateral negotiations, as well as the meetings of the multilateral working groups, and noting with satisfaction the broad international support for the peace process,

Noting the continuing positive participation of the United Nations as a full extraregional participant in the work of the multilateral working groups,

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1/ Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995 (A/CONF.177/20), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

Bearing in mind the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements, signed by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian People, in Washington on 13 September 1993, 2/ and the subsequent Agreement on the Gaza Strip and the Jericho Area, signed by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization at Cairo on 4 May 1994, 3/ their 29 August 1994 Agreement on the Preparatory Transfer of Powers and Responsibilities, the Protocol on Further Transfer of Powers and Responsibilities signed by the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization at Cairo on 27 August 1995, and the Interim Agreement on the West Bank and Gaza Strip, signed by the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization in Washington on 28 September 1995,

Also bearing in mind the Agreement between Israel and Jordan on the Common Agenda, signed in Washington on 14 September 1993, the Washington Declaration, signed by Jordan and Israel on 25 July 1994, 4/ and the Treaty of Peace between the State of Israel and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, of 26 October 1994, 5/

Welcoming the Declaration of the Middle East/North Africa Economic Summit, held at Casablanca from 30 October to 1 November 1994, 6/ as well as the Declaration of the Middle East/North Africa Economic Summit, held at Amman from 29 to 31 October 1995,

Reaffirming paragraph 145 of the Beijing Platform for Action which calls upon the international community to condemn and act against all forms and manifestations of terrorism,

1. Welcomes the peace process started at Madrid, and supports the subsequent bilateral negotiations;

2. Stresses the importance of, and need for, achieving a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East;

3. Expresses its full support for the achievements of the peace process thus far, in particular the Declaration of Principles on Interim Self-Government Arrangements, signed by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, the representative of the Palestinian People, the subsequent Agreement on the Gaza Strip and the Jericho Area, signed by the Government of the State of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization, their 29 August 1994 Agreement on the Preparatory Transfer of Powers and

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2/ A/48/486-S/26560, annex.

3/ A/49/180-S/1994/727, annex.

4/ A/49/300-S/1994/939, annex.

5/ A/50/73-S/1995/83, enclosure.

6/ A/49/645, annex.

Responsibilities, the Protocol on Further Transfer of Powers and Responsibilities signed by the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization at Cairo on 27 August 1995, the Interim Agreement on the West Bank and Gaza Strip, signed by the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization in Washington on 28 September 1995, the Agreement between Israel and Jordan on the Common Agenda, the Washington Declaration, signed by Jordan and Israel on 25 July 1994, and the Treaty of Peace between the State of Israel and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, of 26 October 1994, which constitute important steps in achieving a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East, and urges all parties to implement the agreements reached;

4. Stresses the need to achieve rapid progress on the other tracks of the Arab-Israeli negotiations within the peace process;

5. Urges Governments, intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organizations to include women in the peace process;

6. Also urges Governments, intergovernmental bodies and non-governmental organizations to support the implementation of the Declaration of Principles and to assist the Palestinian people to ensure Palestinian women's political development and participation;

7. Welcomes the results of the Conference to Support Middle East Peace, convened in Washington on 1 October 1993, including the establishment of the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee, the subsequent work of the World Bank Consultative Group, welcomes also the appointment by the Secretary-General of the "United Nations Special Coordinator in the Occupied Territories", and urges Member States to expedite economic, financial and technical assistance to the Palestinian people during the interim period;

8. Condemns recent terrorist attacks in Israel which seek to undermine the peace process and which have caused loss of life and injuries among women and their families, and supports the statement of the Summit of the Peace Makers in Sharm el-Sheikh on 13 March 1996;

9. Calls upon all Member States to extend economic, financial and technical assistance to parties in the region and to render support for the peace process, especially with regard to women;

10. Urges Member States to ensure that all economic, financial and technical assistance to parties in the region take into account the role of women as full participants and beneficiaries;

11. Considers that an active United Nations role in the Middle East peace process and in assisting in the implementation of the Declaration of Principles can make a positive contribution with regard to the status of women;

12. Encourages regional development and cooperation in areas where work has begun within the framework of the Madrid Conference.

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FOLLOW-UP TO THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN

Australia, Canada* and Norway: draft resolution

Mainstreaming the human rights of women

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Recalling all relevant resolutions, in particular General Assembly resolution 50/203 of 22 December 1995, in which, inter alia, the Assembly endorsed the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women, 1/

Welcoming the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, 2/ adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights, which emphasizes that the human rights of women and the girl child are an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights and stresses that these rights should be integrated into the mainstream of United Nations system-wide activities, and noting that according to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, steps should be taken to increase cooperation and promote further integration of objectives and goals between the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Human Rights, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the

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* In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

1/ Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995 (A/CONF.177/20), chap. I, resolution 1.

2/ Report of the World Conference on Human Rights, Vienna, 14-25 June 1993 (A/CONF.157/24 (Part I)), chap. III.

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United Nations Development Fund for Women, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and other United Nations bodies,

Recalling that the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women 3/ is a key international human rights instrument for the promotion and protection of women's human rights, and acknowledging both its codifying and innovating functions,

Noting the important roles that the Commission on the Status of women and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women have to play in making the general human rights work of the United Nations more gender conscious and in promoting the universal and indivisible human rights of women,

Welcoming the adoption by the General Assembly of the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, 4/ and recalling Commission on Human Rights resolution 1994/45 of 4 March 1994, 5/ in which the Commission decided to appoint, for a three-year period, a special rapporteur on violence against women, including its causes and its consequences, as well as Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/85 of 8 March 1995 on the elimination of violence against women, 6/

1. Stresses the need to intensify efforts of cooperation and coordination to ensure that the equal status and the human rights of all women and the girl child are integrated into the mainstream of United Nations system-wide activities and are addressed regularly and systematically in relevant United Nations bodies and mechanisms;

2. Welcomes the report of the Secretary-General on the extent to which violations of women's human rights have been addressed by human rights mechanisms, 7/ and endorses the recommendations contained therein;

3. Welcomes the report of the Secretary-General on the joint work plan of the Division for the Advancement of women and the Centre for Human Rights 8/ to improve cooperation between the Division and the Centre as an element in mainstreaming the human rights of women;

4. Takes note of the request of the Commission on Human Rights, in its resolution 1995/86 of 8 March 1995, 6/ that the special rapporteurs,

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3/ General Assembly resolution 34/180.

4/ General Assembly resolution 48/104.

5/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1994, Supplement No. 4 (E/1994/24), chap. II, sect. A.

6/ Ibid., 1995, Supplement No. 3 (E/1995/23), chap. II, sect. A.

7/ E/CN.6/1996/9.

8/ E/CN.6/1996/13.

representatives, experts and chairpersons of the working groups of the Commission on Human Rights, in future meetings on enhancing cooperation and exchange of information, address violations of the human rights of women;

5. Recalls that the Commission on Human Rights, in its resolution 1994/45, requested the Secretary-General to ensure that the reports of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences were brought to the attention of the Commission on the Status of Women to assist the Commission in its work in the area of violence against women;

6. Notes General Assembly resolution 50/170 of 22 December 1995, in which the Assembly welcomed the emphasis by the persons chairing the human rights treaty bodies that the enjoyment of the human rights of women should be closely monitored by each treaty body within the competence of its mandate;

7. Encourages the Division for the Advancement of Women to provide any relevant material it receives or prepares, through the Centre for Human Rights, for the information of the treaty bodies in their work;

8. Encourages the Division for the Advancement of Women to continue to develop methodologies to analyse gender perspectives in the reports of the States parties that are being considered by the treaty bodies;

9. Encourages the Division for the Advancement of Women to cooperate with and assist the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences through the automatic and regular exchange of information and by forwarding expeditiously any relevant material it receives or prepares on violence against women;

10. Emphasizes the need to develop and enhance the role of focal points on the human rights of women, in both the Centre for Human Rights and the Division for the Advancement of Women, and to ensure cooperation and coordination between the two bodies on an ongoing basis;

11. Encourages the Division for the Advancement of Women and the Centre for Human Rights to explore the possibility of providing training in the human rights of women and of training personnel in the Division for the Advancement of Women in general human rights matters;

12. Encourages the efforts made by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, within the mandate established by General Assembly resolution 48/141 of 20 December 1993, to promote and protect the human rights of women, including his efforts to coordinate the activities of relevant United Nations organs, bodies and mechanisms dealing with human rights in considering violations of the human rights of women;

13. Emphasizes the need for all relevant organs, bodies and agencies of the United Nations system to include information on gender-based human rights violations in their activities and integrate the findings into all of their programmes and activities;

14. Urges States to consider the gender composition of the treaty bodies when nominating and electing candidates to such bodies;

15. Emphasizes the need for the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education to incorporate a gender perspective into all its activities and the importance of drafting the mid-Decade report and the final report on the Decade so as to include mainstreaming of the human rights of women, ensuring that the evaluation criteria of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights for those reports include whether the human rights of women are a mainstream concern;

16. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-first session, in 1997, on the implementation of the present resolution;

17. Decides to remain seized of the matter and, in particular, to examine at its forty-first session the progress made and the plans developed.

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FOLLOW-UP TO THE FOURTH WORLD CONFERENCE ON WOMEN

Fiji*, Ghana*, Nigeria*, Philippines and Thailand: draft resolution

Traffic in women and girls

The Commission on the Status of Women,

Reaffirming its faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women, enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the principles set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1/ the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, 2/ the International Covenants on Human Rights, 3/ the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, 4/ the Convention on the Rights of the Child 5/ and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, 6/

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* In accordance with rule 69 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

1/ General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

2/ General Assembly resolution 34/180, annex.

3/ General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI).

4/ General Assembly resolution 39/46, annex.

5/ General Assembly resolution 44/25, annex.

6/ General Assembly resolution 48/104, annex.

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 49/166 of 23 December 1994 and 50/167 of 22 December 1995, Commission on the Status of Women resolution 39/6 of 29 March 1995 7/ and Commission on Human Rights resolutions 1994/45 of 4 March 1994 8/ and 1995/25 of 3 March 1995 9/ on the traffic in women and girls,

Concurring with the conclusions and recommendations made by recent international conferences, including the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna, the World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen, the International Conference on Population and Development in Cairo and the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, on the human rights of women and girl children, in particular with respect to the violation of those rights by their being forced into sexually or economically oppressive and exploitative situations for the profit of recruiters, traffickers and crime syndicates, as well as into other illegal activities related to trafficking, such as forced domestic labour, false marriages, child marriages, clandestine employment and false adoption,

Acknowledging that the problem of trafficking also victimizes young boys,

Welcoming the decision of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in its resolution 3/2 of 6 May 1994 10/ to consider the international traffic in minors at its fourth session, in the context of its discussion on the question of organized transnational crime, and the adoption by the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities of resolution 1994/5, in which the Subcommission recommended that Governments adopt legislation to prevent child prostitution and child pornography,

Concerned about the increasing number of women and girl children from developing countries and from some countries with economies in transition who are being victimized by traffickers, and noting the misuse of advanced information technology for pornographic and trafficking purposes,

Realizing the urgent need for the adoption of effective measures at the national, regional and international levels to protect women and girl children from this nefarious traffic,

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7/ Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1995, Supplement No. 6 (E/1995/26), chap. I, sect. C.

8/ Ibid., 1994, Supplement No. 4 (E/1994/24), chap. II, sect. A.

9/ Ibid., 1995, Supplement No. 3 and corrigenda (E/1995/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

10/ Ibid., 1994, Supplement No. 11 (E/1994/31), chap. I, sect. C.

1. Welcomes the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development, 11/ held at Cairo from 5 to 13 September 1994, which, inter alia, called upon all Governments to prevent all international trafficking in migrants, especially for the purpose of prostitution, and for the adoption by Governments of both receiving countries and countries of origin of effective sanctions against those who organize undocumented migration, exploit undocumented migrants or engage in trafficking in undocumented migrants, especially those who engage in any form of international trafficking in women and girl children;

2. Calls for the implementation of the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women 12/ by Governments of countries of origin, transit and destination and regional and international organizations, as appropriate:

(a) By considering the ratification and enforcement of international conventions on trafficking in persons and on slavery;

(b) By taking appropriate measures to address the root factors, including external factors, that encourage trafficking in women and girls for prostitution and other forms of commercialized sex, forced marriages and forced labour in order to eliminate trafficking in women, including by strengthening existing legislation with a view to providing better protection of the rights of women and girls and to punishing the perpetrators, through both criminal and civil measures;

(c) By stepping up cooperation and concerted action by all relevant law enforcement authorities and institutions with a view to dismantling national, regional and international networks in trafficking;

(d) By allocating resources to provide comprehensive programmes designed to heal and rehabilitate into society victims of trafficking, including through job training and the provision of legal assistance and confidential health care, as well as by taking measures to cooperate with non-governmental organizations to provide for the social, medical and psychological care of the victims of trafficking;

(e) By developing educational and training programmes and policies and considering enacting legislation aimed at preventing sex tourism and trafficking, giving special emphasis to the protection of young women and children;

3. Invites Governments to consider the development of standard minimum rules for the humanitarian treatment of trafficked persons, consistent with internationally recognized human rights standards;

11/ Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

12/ Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995 (A/CONF.177/20 and Add.1), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

4. Encourages Governments, relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to gather and share information relative to all aspects of trafficking in women and girl children in order to facilitate the development of anti-trafficking measures, and to adopt appropriate measures to create wider public awareness of the problem;

5. Calls upon all Governments to take appropriate measures to prevent the misuse and exploitation by traffickers of such economic activities as the development of tourism and the export of labour and the use of advanced information technology, including cyberspace;

6. Encourages the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women and the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, as well as the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, to continue to pay special attention to the problem of trafficking in women and girl children, and to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session, through the usual channels;

7. Reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to focus the International Day for the Abolition of Slavery, 2 December 1996, on the problem of trafficking in human persons, especially women and children, and to devote one meeting of the fifty-first session of the General Assembly to the discussion of this problem;

8. Encourages the holding of an international conference on trafficking;

9. Decides to remain seized of this matter and to examine, at its forty-first session, the reports of the Special Rapporteurs and relevant organizations and bodies, with a view to making appropriate recommendations to the General Assembly at its fifty-first session, through the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1996.